

EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

 June 1,
1946
No 1419

PRICE THREEPENCE

MODERN VENTURERS INTO THE UNKNOWN

The Spirit of the Old Pioneers Lives On

EVEN today there exist little-known, and even unknown, parts of the earth. The arduous and often thrilling work of exploration is still going on, and its value is shown by recent awards made by the Royal Geographical Society to explorers and men of science.

The Society's Founder's Medal for 1945 has been given to Dr Charles Camsell, Canadian Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources, for his fine work in helping to make maps of 25,000 square miles of the vast and almost unpopulated wilderness in the north-west of Canada. The whole area comprises the North West Territories, Yukon, North Alberta, and Northern British Columbia—altogether an expanse of land as big as Europe without Russia.

This remote region of forests, mountains, lakes, and rocky plains has, since the dawn of the white man's history in Canada, lain untouched by Civilisation's hand except for the discovery of gold in Yukon in 1897, oil at Fort Norman in 1921, and radium at the Great Bear Lake within the last ten years.

These wild lands, however, lie directly under the shortest air route from the centre of North America to Japan, China, and Siberia. Airfields were established in the North West Terri-

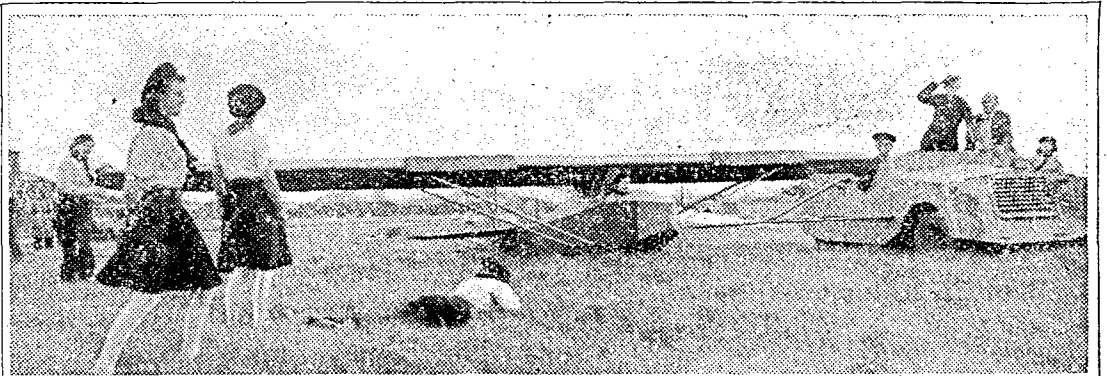
tory and in Alaska during the war, and the famous Military Highway from British Columbia to Alaska was built at great cost and with wonderful engineering skill across it.

Men began to realise that the mysterious northern wilderness—where the Indians said there was a "Vale of Perpetual Summer"—will one day become a thriving civilised country, and the US and Canadian governments appointed Committees to study the region.

One of the first tasks was to make accurate maps of the desolate lands, and that was where Dr Camsell did such splendid work—in the course of which he proved that the "tropical valley" the Indians spoke of existed only in their imagination.

The region the Committee studied is estimated to contain 15 million acres of arable land, and Dr Camsell believes the area could support a population relative to that of Norway.

Continued at foot of page



AIR RANGERS IN TRAINING

THE newest section of the Girl Guide Movement, the Air Rangers, is rapidly becoming popular with air-minded girls. Our pictures were taken at Gatwick, on the Surrey-Sussex border, where the 1st Purley Air Rangers have week-end training in the handling of gliders. The picture above shows a sailplane being hauled across the aerodrome to enable the Ranger in the cockpit to become familiar with the controls, as seen in the picture below. The girls also receive training in air navigation and ground work.

About Time

NOT long ago an ex-Serviceman of Llandudno was surprised to receive a letter in French, and wondered what it was all about, as he could not recollect corresponding with anyone in that country. He soon discovered, however, that it was from a jeweller, informing him that his watch was repaired and asking him to call for it.

Then this ex-Serviceman remembered that in 1940 he had been in a small French village when his watch went wrong, and he had left it at this jeweller's shop. During the many adventures that followed he had completely forgotten it until this letter arrived to remind him.

THE SCOUT WHO WANTED TO DO SOMETHING

Continued from column 2

Another award of the Royal Geographical Society is to Commander J. W. S. Marr, who as Scout Marr in 1921 sailed in the Quest as cabin boy to Shackleton in the Antarctic expedition in which that explorer died. Scout Marr, now Commander Marr, M.A., B.Sc., R.N.V.R., has been awarded a Back Grant—two years' income—for his scientific work on the Discovery II and for his writings on the South Orkney Islands, which Weddell—who gave his name to the sea in which they lie—described as

Man's Search For Power Without Limit

THE energy obtained from splitting atoms may one day give us all the power we want; but coal and oil, petrol, alcohol, and natural gas will for long years yet be the servants of man, producing power for industry and transport and home comforts.

A new source of power, likely to have a great influence on the future of the internal combustion engine, is the petrol now being made synthetically from the vast supplies of natural gas available in America.

We are apt, in our search for fuel, to go from one thing to another—a sort of "general post." We have in turn burned peat and distilled oil from shale, converted waste plants and vegetables into alcohol; we have delved lower and lower into the earth to reach one level below another of oil, and have converted surface coal into dust which can be burned as boiler fuel.

As an ultimate end of coal reserves became realised, experts hailed the enormous supplies of oil as a substitute, but so rapidly do the world's demands for fuel increase, that a possible end of oil, too, became threatened.

During the war the Germans made huge quantities of petrol from the cooking gas obtained from coal. It was poor and it was expensive, but it met a crisis. Now, from America's vast supplies of natural gas, a new process has been perfected of making a synthetic petrol. By what is known as the Hydrocol process it would appear that this man-made petrol can compete in price with natural petrol, and that new supplies of the highest quality aeroplane spirit, as well as the lower grades required by

Diesel engines, will become available in great quantities.

We may have to continue our game of "general post" with fuel, changing from one kind to another. But, with man's ingenuity, the world demand for fuel will be met until the great day when atomic energy will give us a new era of unlimited power for all and every purpose.

SPEEDING-UP THE LINER

THE world's biggest liner, the 85,000-ton Queen Elizabeth, is also the world's biggest model. She has been selected as a model for improved speed equipment.

In the engine shops of Messrs John Brown & Co at Clydebank new-type turbine blades of special alloy that will withstand high steam pressure are being machined out of the solid. Hollow, like the blade of a potato scraper, the blades are specially designed to catch every inch of steam hurtling through the turbines. Previously some of the steam was wasted, and, as the waste steam tended to loosen and damage vulnerable fittings, the efficiency of the turbines was reduced. The tiny steam traps on the new blades will eliminate this and give the ship greater speed with lower fuel consumption. There are 650,000 blades in the Queen Elizabeth's turbines.



A member of the 1st Purley Air Rangers at the controls of a sailplane at Gatwick Airport

"cold earthless land, with its immense ice islands." Commander Marr wrote a complete account of the islands and their history since they were discovered by George Powell, an English sealer, in 1821.

Commander Marr has carried out much Arctic and Antarctic exploration and has fulfilled the ambition he expressed when Shackleton asked him why he wanted to join the Quest: "Because I want to do something."

Among other awards of the R.G.S is that of Patron's Medal,

1946, to Sub-Inspector Henry A. Larsen, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who, as described some time ago in the C.N., led the first expedition to sail the North-West Passage from west to east and from east to west. The Gill Memorial, 1946, has been given to Wing-Commander D. C. McKinley, who led the first R.A.F. flight round the world, and that which fixed the true position of the magnetic pole.

Other equally daring and skilful men have also been honoured for their roles in adding to knowledge of the earth.

2 University Education Now Within the Reach of All

THE tragedy of the clever and hardworking boy, or girl, not being able, owing to lack of money, to benefit by a university scholarship he has won is to occur no more. The State is to provide him with an adequate allowance to cover the cost of tuition and maintenance during his stay at the university. The Ministry of Education is to start this new scheme in the autumn.

A PARLIAMENT FOR CEYLON

THE British colony of Ceylon is now well on the road to Dominion status.

An Order in Council has been made granting self-government to the island, with a Parliament of her own, on the lines recommended by the Soulbury Commission last October. Until recently Ceylon was ruled by a Governor and a State Council, and the Commission proposed that the State Council should be replaced by a Parliament of two houses, like our own, only the Ceylon Parliament should consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives, with a Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The new Parliament will have full power to make laws for the good government of the island; but the Governor, representing the King, reserves the right to give assent to certain bills relating to defence and external affairs and to bills which in his opinion are likely to give offence to racial or religious communities.

In a broadcast Mr George Hall, Secretary of the Colonies, said: "This is a striking example of the British Government's policy to assist all colonial territories towards self-government, and it is the first instance of a British colonial territory with an almost entirely non-European electorate reaching the threshold of Dominion status."

Italy Goes to the Polls

IT is twenty-five years since the Italian people voted at a free, democratic election. On June 2 they will go to the polls once again, but with several differences.

Italian women will register their vote for the first time; and, apart from certain classes of people who are disqualified, every citizen will be compelled to vote. Failure to do so will be excused only on medical evidence being given.

The elections will be in two parts. First, there is to be what is known as a referendum, which will call upon electors to decide whether they want a Monarchy or a Republic.

On the second ballot paper the emblems of the various registered parties will appear, and each voter must vote for the party which he or she prefers. The voter may also add the names of candidates of that party who are considered suitable to represent it. The ballot will be secret.

So Italy emerges from the thralldom of Fascist tyranny. Though the new system of voting in Italy differs from ours, it is designed to ensure that the will of the people is expressed in Italy's new Government.

INDIA'S GREAT OPPORTUNITY

HAVING failed after long and patient discussions to secure agreement between the major Hindu and Moslem Parties on a future Constitution for India, the British Cabinet Ministers there have produced a plan of their own.

In this plan our Ministers reject the idea of dividing India into separate Sovereign States for Mohammedans and Hindus, which was what the Moslem League wanted. They suggest instead that there should be a Union of India, both of British India and the States ruled by their own princes. They propose a Central Government—composed entirely of Indians—for this Union, to deal only with such important matters as India's relations with foreign powers, her Army, Navy, and Air Force, and her roads and railways. All other subjects would be dealt with by the governments of the different provinces, Bombay, Madras, Bengal, and so on; and these provinces would be allowed to join together in groups, if they so desired, each group having its own government, provided by a Legislature, or Parliament.

The Central India Government would also have a Legislature, with representatives from British India and also from the Princes' States, after negotiation.

Safeguarding a Minority

If any dispute were to arise between the representatives of the Hindus and Moslems in this Central Legislature, it could be settled only if a majority of each of the two parties voted one way or the other as well as a majority of all the members of the Legislature.

Thus the Moslems would be safeguarded in the Central Legislature, and not only that, but under the group system would have the advantages of the Pakistan scheme without the danger of civil war, which would arise if India were divided into two separate States.

If India's political leaders accept this plan and set up the proposed provisional government with a representative constituent assembly, Great Britain will at once begin to negotiate a treaty with it as with that of any other sovereign State.

The Last of the Cambridge Seven

THE first to offer his services and the last to remain in the missionary field, Mr D. E. Hoste, who has recently passed on, was also the last survivor of the group of University men known as the Cambridge Seven. Influenced by D. L. Moody's preaching, Mr Hoste resigned his Army commission in 1884 and joined the China Inland Mission.

His six companions were C. T. Studd, the England cricketer, W. W. Cassels, who became a bishop, A. T. and C. Polhill, both Eton and Cambridge cricketers, S. Smith, Cambridge stroke in 1882, and M. H. (later Sir) Proctor-Beauchamp, also a Cambridge rowing man.

Their lives changed by the American evangelists, D. L. Moody and I. D. Sankey, these Cambridge Seven gave up their careers and went to China to spread the Christian faith.

WORLD NEWS REEL

TO SEE UNDER SEA. Soviet scientists are perfecting underwater television apparatus so as to be able to examine ship's hulls and objects on the sea-bed.

There arrived at Entebbe, capital of Uganda, not long ago a ten-month-old baby, who with its parents, Wing-Commander and Mrs Whitehouse, had flown 4600 miles from Britain in a tiny Auster plane.

The British cruisers *Black Prince* and *Diadem* have been transferred to the Royal New Zealand Navy.

THE BUSY SWISS. Only 1600 people were unemployed in Switzerland at the end of April 1946.

Argentina has placed orders with two British engineering firms for railway construction equipment worth £205,000.

In the recent Dutch General Election the Catholic People's Party won 32 seats, the new Labour Party 29, the Anti-Revolutionaries 13, the Communists 10, Protestants 8, and Liberals 6.

WAR ON LOCUSTS. An arrangement has been made with the Persian Government for Soviet planes to spray poisonous liquids on locusts in Persian territory.

France is voting on June 2 for a new Assembly which will propose her new Constitution.

The first Messerschmitt rocket plane, believed to be capable of 940 m.p.h., has been found in the French occupied zone of Austria, where it had lain buried for a year.

HAPPY RETURNS. At Nice, in the South of France, the statue of Queen Victoria, which the Germans removed during the war, was ceremonially restored on May 24, the anniversary of her birthday.

A good will exchange of guests is being organised by the Danish-English Society. Danish towns wish to exchange guests with Aberdare, Dover, Edinburgh, and Cardiff.

A gift of £1000 has been sent to the Royal College of Surgeons in London from the Royal Australian College of Surgeons towards rebuilding costs.

THE KING'S HORSES. The Dutch Government have presented 30 black horses for the Household Cavalry and six greys for ceremonial purposes to the King.

A four-day chess match by radio is to be played this month between Britain and Russia.

HOME NEWS REEL

JOY SPECIALS. Extra trains for children's outings to the seaside will be run this summer.

At the beginning of this year in London there were 21 taxi-drivers over 80 years old.

Jimmy, the chimpanzee who used to dress up in a special suit and for 20 years had been a favourite with children at the London Zoo, died recently of old age.

NEW CABLE-SHIP. The largest and most up-to-date cable-laying and repair ship in the world, the *Monarch*, was inspected not long ago by MPs at the West India Docks, London.

The new £1 wireless licence is in force from June 1. Listeners holding 10s licences need not pay £1 until their present licences expire. The combined radio and television licence is £2 a year.

Charlecote Park, Stratford-on-Avon, is being officially handed over to the National Trust on June 1. Dr George Trevelyan, O.M., will accept the gift on behalf of the Trust.

HOLIDAY HELP. Kent school-children who are to help farmers during the holidays are to have 14 camps provided for them.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

INTERNATIONAL CAMPS. Three big International Camps to which Scouts from the Continent have been invited are to be held during the summer—in South Staffordshire, the Lake District, and in Scotland; and a contingent of up to 300 Scouts will represent Britain at the National Camping Ground of the Scouts of Sweden.

For his gallantry in rescuing his friend from drowning in the sea at Oban, Patrol Second William David Blaikie, of the 14th Argyll Scout Troop, has been awarded the Silver Cross.

The 23rd Gravesend Troop have received a Scout badge modelled in coloured glass and mounted on wood, together with an illuminated address of thanks, from some Polish children who had been interned in Belsen prison camp. The present was

A tomb believed to be nearly 4000 years old, discovered on a hill in Northumberland recently, contained the skeleton of a man of 6 feet 4 inches.

When the King visited Winchester College recently, the Prefect of Hall, I. C. S. Normand, delivered from memory a five-minute speech in Latin. He wore the traditional white bow tie and long black gown.

TURN ON THE ATOMIC. At a recent meeting of chemists in Manchester, Professor P. M. S. Blackett, an atom research scientist, said there is a chance that atomic energy will be used to warm our houses in the next few years.

At the unveiling of the memorial to Kirkpatrick MacMillan, who invented the first pedal cycle 107 years ago, a parachutist's bicycle was given to Marion Callender, aged four, the inventor's youngest descendant.

A troop of dancers from Java and Bali have arrived in this country for a concert tour.

Gifts to the £250,000 appeal for the National Association of Boys Clubs, included £50,000 from Sir Henry Price and £25,000 from Sir Harold Bowden.

an appreciation of the educational and handicraft materials which the Scouts had sent them.

RELIEF WORKERS. Acting on behalf of all Relief Societies working in Displaced Persons' Camps near Brunswick, a Guide Relief team organised a Handicraft Exhibition and a Folk Dance and Song Festival. Entrants belonged to ten Nationalities and a remarkably high standard was attained.

The Cornwell Scout Badge has been awarded to Leighton Rees, of the 31st Swansea (Robin Hood's Own) Group. Scout Rees, who is 14, has been unable to walk since he was nine years old, and his disease is incurable.

The Belfast Battalion, Boys' Brigade, recently broke all previous records for its annual Church Parade with a turn-out of 3837.

The Children's Newspaper, June 1, 1946

3

With Jingling Bells and Brasses

THE National Horse Association's recent resolution, asking makers of harness to improve their equipment, draws attention to the fact that the design in horse furniture has not altered very much down the years.

The cult of collecting old horse brasses is on the increase as the supply lessens, and good, well-preserved sets are valuable.

Old-time wagoners, proud as they were of their harness and equipment, would probably have some difficulty in understanding this modern development in the history of their horse decorations. Originally they were supposed to ward off the evil eye, and keep the driver and his team from harm, each article in the set having its own significance.

The New Moon stood for fruitfulness, the Heart for love and generosity, and the flaming Sun for prosperity. No harness was considered complete without bells, our ancestors imagining that their musical jingle helped to fend off evil spirits. Bells and horses have been associated for quite a long time, the usual prize for the winner of a horse race in olden times being a gold or silver bell. This custom arose in the days of James I, when organised horse racing began in England.

In the North Country there is still a race for the Carlisle Bell which bears the quaint inscription "The swiftest horse this bell to tak, for my Lady Daker's sake."

ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT

A TOUCHING instance of sheep-dogs' devotion to their master is reported from the lonely hill country of North Argyllshire.

A shepherd, Dugald MacPhail, of Glenfeochan, went out with his dogs to tend his sheep and did not return. A search party was organised, and the shepherd's body was found closely guarded by his two dogs. He is believed to have had a heart seizure, and the dogs had watched over him all through the night.

Clever Poodle



Bruno, at the top, encourages his friend, French Chalk, to finish his tricky ladder climb.

New Brooms

WHEN a cricketer plays for his county for the first time he may be forgiven for feeling nervous—especially if he is a bowler. But not long ago when E. Tilley, a fast-medium bowler, played for the first time in his life for Leicestershire he achieved something that must be a record.

With his very first ball as a brand-new Leicestershire player he caught and bowled Alderman, the opening batsman for Derbyshire. After that he took two more wickets when only 19 runs had been scored off his bowling, and then he caught A. E. Rhodes. A fine beginning indeed!

End of a Water Supply

AFTER giving good service for more than 300 years, Comiston Springs are being abandoned as a source of Edinburgh's water supply.

In 1621 the Scottish Parliament authorised the use of Comiston Springs for the capital's public water supplies. This was one of the earliest examples in Britain of a public water supply being laid on to a town.

Tests have now shown that the water, hitherto as pure as crystal, is becoming contaminated. A large housing scheme has been developed over the collecting area of the springs, and its drainage has begun to pollute the waters. It has been recommended, however, that for their historical interest Comiston Springs and their works should be kept in a state of repair.

FOR ST PAUL'S

ALTHOUGH St Paul's miraculously survived the blitzes and seems unscathed as it towers magnificently over the bomb-torn spaces round it, yet the Cathedral sustained considerable damage in the war, and it is estimated that £250,000 will be needed to restore it.

Of this sum the War Damage Commission will supply a large share, but their grant will be only for the main repairs, and £100,000 is required for other renovations. Inside the Cathedral there is much work to be done on the windows and the renewal of the heating and lighting. The organ and the choir and its ornaments also want attention, and the North Transept needs to be reconstructed. The houses of the Dean and Chapter also need repairs. Funds are required, too, for maintaining the choir school.

An appeal to friends throughout the Empire has been made by the Dean and Chapter for subscriptions towards the £100,000. Donations should be sent to Canon Alexander, St Paul's Cathedral, London, EC 4.

HUSH-HUSH!

Censorship during war is a necessary evil, but that it is heartily disliked is revealed in this letter written by a young soldier to his father:

"OF course I am not allowed to tell you exactly where I am, but this much I can tell you. We are not where we were, but where we were before we left to go to the place we have just come from, and let the censor take it out of that."

OUR SENUSSI FRIENDS

A PLEDGE to a strange desert people of Libya, who are now good friends of Britain, was renewed recently when Mr Bevin, at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris, declared that Britain would keep her wartime promise to the Senussi that they should not again be placed under any form of Italian domination. For during the war the Senussi helped our forces in Libya at a time when Britain stood alone.

The Senussi are not a distinct tribe but a Moslem religious sect, founded in Libya about 1843 by the Sheikh es Senussi. He preached a kind of Moslem puritanism, a return to the simpler form of Mohammedan faith, forbidding his followers music, dancing, tobacco, coffee and, of course, alcohol. He gained many adherents and under his successors the Senussi became a powerful community, dwelling round the oases in the uncharted deserts of Libya and carrying on trade with Tripoli and Benghazi on the Mediterranean coast. In the First World War they fought against us, and the Italians who were then our allies, but in the recent war they gave us valuable help against the Italians.

Now Britain intends to do all she can to ensure that they may follow their own way of life, unhampered by foreign rule.

TOWING A FLOATING DOCK

THE great floating dock from Alexandria is now on its way to Bermuda to replace one there that has become unserviceable. Three little British tugs have the task of towing this enormous and ungainly mass of floating metal through the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic. Whatever the adventures of the crews in this odd-looking procession, they will not equal those of the men who last year—as described at the time in the CN—towed a 2750-ton floating dock from Iceland to Australia. For the crews then had not only to contend with storms but were exposed to the danger of U-boat attacks. The perilous journey of that floating dock lasted six months.

Any Questions?



"Is it cold up there?" The young traveller is not being cheeky to Mr H. S. Turrell, new stationmaster at Euston, London, but is inquiring about the North, where he is going and whence Mr Turrell, who was stationmaster at Carlisle, has come.

Fireworks in June



A picture taken at a factory at Hemel Hempstead of a few of the rockets and other fireworks that will make a grand display in London on Victory Night.

THIS KIND WORLD Temple of Christian Unity

CHILDREN under 14 who have lived for at least five years in the Wharfedale village of Kettlewell are each to receive £1 under the will of Mr W. P. Inman, who was sub-postmaster there for nearly 40 years.

He had no children of his own, but Mr Inman will long be remembered by the children of Kettlewell as the man who kept the village stores, served them with sweets, and showed the greatest interest in their youthful activities.

Enterprise on Scawfell Pike

ENTERPRISE and energy combined were recently displayed by an ex-Serviceman in Cumberland who on fine days sold soft drinks on the top of Scawfell Pike, England's highest mountain, 3210 feet.

It began when Mr George Thompson, a former flight-sergeant, climbed to the top of Scawfell Pike and, feeling very thirsty, found that the nearest stream was half a mile below him. After that, on every day fine enough to attract rambles, he trudged to the top of the mountain carrying two bucketfuls of water, 24 glasses, and three bottles of cordial. He mixed and sold his drinks at 6d a glass.

However, the National Trust, to whom the summit belongs, objected to his trading in soft drinks without their authority. Mr Thompson is appealing to the Trust to allow him to continue his arduous but thirst-quenching activity.

X-RAYED BULBS

IN a shop in Amsterdam new types of tulips of unusual colour, size, and form are being exhibited. They have been grown from bulbs treated with X-rays. This treatment, claims Dr W. E. de Mol, can make bulbs change their hereditary structure, thereby creating entirely new varieties.

The Stars Hold Their Own

AMERICA has seen its first V2 rocket in action, and has been busy with calculations. The rocket, which was German, and intended for use against London, weighed 14 tons, and was fired in the desert of New Mexico.

Scientists who were present estimated that the rocket soared to a height of 75 miles, and travelled at a maximum speed of 3800 miles an hour, far too fast for the sound of its approach to be heard, as Londoners who heard nothing of the rockets until they burst, knew well.

The details concerning the

travel of the V2 are so astonishing that we are inclined to wonder whether such velocities can be exceeded. Nature has the answer. Forces beyond the control of man still defy comparison. Astronomers smile at a rocket's 3800 mph, formidable as it is to the rest of us.

They know, for instance, that for ages past Mercury has been speeding round the Sun at a velocity exceeding 100,000 miles an hour; and the spectroscope reveals that distant nebulae are moving at a million and a half miles a minute.

June 1, 1946

The Children's



Practising For the Victory Parade

These five drummers of the WAAF Central Band, which has more than 36 musicians, are seen preparing for June 8, when their band is to lead a contingent of WAAFs, Princess Mary's R A F Nursing Service, and Royal Air Force V A Ds in the Victory Parade.

Frost and Fruit

WHEN A STRAW-BERRY IS A JAMMER

ONE result of the May frosts will be fewer big strawberries; the frost nipped the large central flowers from which come the berries known to growers as "kings." But there will be plenty of "jammers," the small strawberries which mostly go to the jam factories.

Frost damages the fruit in our orchards every year, and most farmers are tolerantly amused when they read the estimates given in early Spring of crop prospects, and of the "devastation" in their orchards and fields.

Nature's Provision

There is a well-founded belief among growers in Kent that the fruit crop cannot be estimated until after Derby Day, the nearest Wednesday to the First of June, for it is not until early in that month that the damage done by frost, hail, and wind can be assessed.

Nature makes allowances for such damage, and every good tree in a normal season carries enough blossom to admit of big losses. As one apple-grower said to a C N correspondent, "Look at the bloom on that tree. If five per cent 'sets,' we shall have a fair crop of apples. If it all sets, there won't be room for apples to grow, and some will wither and fall."

He said something else which may console us when we find no big strawberries in the shops. "There will be plenty of jammers, and the little ones are often nicer than the big."

THE BOY WHO WOULD GO TO SCHOOL

WE have just had the pleasure of reading the History of Caterham School written by Dr Hugh Stafford, a retired master.

The school was founded in 1811 for the sons of Congregational ministers, and in 1884 moved from Lewisham to Caterham, where it has imposing buildings and the status of a public school. In the early days there were no Christmas holidays, the boys merely going home for six weeks in the summer. Luckily the boys loved their school, and there are few instances of them running away. Indeed, Caterham is

THEATRES ACROSS THE SEA

CARGOES of theatres are now arriving in America as part of Britain's export drive. They are crossing the Atlantic as the toy theatres "made in Britain" which Mr Ralph Richardson the actor has revived out of an old trade which has always been one of Britain's little-known sidelines.

The story of this 1946 venture recalls a day in the 1880's when Robert Louis Stevenson walked into a tiny shop in Hoxton. It was a slum shop, and RLS had his tall hat knocked off by a toy theatre hanging from the roof. Mr Pollock, the shopkeeper, specialised in making toy theatres with elaborately-coloured cardboard fronts, with models of men and women sitting in them looking on the players in the orchestra. They delighted the mind of RLS—always thinking of children's delight—and he wrote in 1887: "If you love art, folly, or the bright eyes of children, speed to Pollock's."

Mr Pollock, who died shortly before the war, had run the business for more than 60 years, having carried on after the death of the founder, his father-

-in-law, John Redington. For more than a hundred years it was in the family, Mr Pollock's daughters continuing after his death.

Then, in 1943, almost the whole street in Hoxton was destroyed by enemy bombs, but the little shop remained. The entire stock, including plates from which the characters were printed, was then bought by Mr Alan Keen, a London expert on rare books and prints. As a boy Mr Ralph Richardson, who is associated with Mr Keen, played with toy theatres and he wishes to maintain the Pollock tradition.

So American children are enjoying the colour and romance which came out of Hoxton—a drab part of London, but made gay and happy for many years by Pollock's.

Arab Steeds For the Princesses

PRINCESS ELIZABETH and Princess Margaret are each to have a lovely chestnut Arab horse, two of which come to this country with the Palestine Contingent for the Victory parade.

The thought of parting with an Arab horse, next to his kindred the dearest treasure of a son of the desert, stirs memories of that moving poem, The Arab's Farewell to his Steed. But here there is no poverty leading to thought of sale; the

horses come to the Princesses as the gift of the Emir Abdullah of Transjordan, and are chosen from the Emir's splendid stud of these famous animals.

Two thousand years of close association with the life and activities of men have made Arab steeds the most faithful and intelligent of all horses. Their blood is in our finest stock. Charles the Second imported 40 Eastern horses, Barb, Turk, and Arab, to give speed and endurance to our more powerful but slower kinds. The British thoroughbred, with ancient Arab blood in its veins, is the speediest of all horses over short distances, but the desert Arab, which needs less food or water than any other species, is declared by experts to be still the king of horses for speed under exacting conditions on long journeys.

The horses from Transjordan will not be tested under circumstances so trying; their lives will be passed in a paradise of ease, care, and kindness under the observation of the two young Princesses, who are not only devotedly fond of animals, but understand their needs and nature.

EDITOR'S TABLE

NEW TOWNS

BRITAIN is to build a group of new towns in the countryside, each taking its name from an old village or small town. The creation of these new towns, each of fifty thousand inhabitants, is a sign that this ancient land is again concerned with setting up living communities for its people—places where they can dwell together in comradeship, and not mere building estates on the edges of already overgrown cities, where, all too often, there is no social life.

OUR ancestors in Britain built their towns as centres of a communal life. They defended them with high walls and gates, and thus secured for the citizen freedom to live the good life in fellowship. It was within the walls of our towns that so much of our British independence and liberty was first won.

But with the growth of industry and the triumph of the machine the towns outgrew their boundaries, and vast areas of houses grew up. Men began to lose the meaning of citizenship. The town itself was regarded merely as a place where men worked: not a place where men wanted to live.

Britain now hopes to recapture something of that old spirit of citizenship by building new towns where the people will be proud both to work and dwell. Most men and women like to have their homes near their work and their children's schools. They ask for country fields, not too far away, but they also ask for all the recreation which modern towns can provide.

IN the past we have too often separated town from country—but the British people still hold that town-dwellers and country-dwellers have priceless gifts to share. Britain's new towns will be country towns, offering life within a community manageable in size; they will be towns small enough for men to know their neighbours and large enough to provide all the delights and interests of organised modern life.

Into the creation of these towns will go all the skill of modern architects, and the devotion of craftsmen, harmonising ancient traditions with new and more efficient home-planning. In these new towns there will be no back-to-back houses, no rows of mean streets, and no barriers between town and country.

EACH family in the new towns will have privacy, but there need be no lonely people, or people ever sighing and striving to be elsewhere. From many of our industrial towns men are only too glad to escape. Britain's new towns will be fine places—good to look upon and good to live in. They will be worthy of the people and worthy of this green and pleasant land.

Town Playgrounds

IN our blitzed cities there are many open spaces bearing the stamp of ruin and merely lying idle. But one such site, in Chelsea, has been converted into a playground where boys and girls can romp, away from busy streets—and danger.

Most of these derelict spaces will be needed for new homes and other buildings; but there are others where Chelsea's example might well be followed.

The Five Million Club, of which that grand friend of youth Lord Aberdare is the president, has offered, in conjunction with the National Playing Fields Association, to make small grants to local town councils willing to provide such playgrounds.

What a splendid opportunity is here to make life happier, healthier, and safer for the children of our cities.

HOME SERVICE

A HAPPY sidelight on the resourcefulness of our troops are the enterprises for home aid service which some demobilised men have taken up.

At Salisbury and Hendon, for instance, groups of ex-Servicemen are undertaking almost anything that requires to be done in the home, from washing-up to taking the dog for a walk; and they are being overwhelmed with orders. One group is even hoping to open a day nursery to relieve harassed mothers.

In their new enterprise these groups of ex-Servicemen see something more than a livelihood. With the customary human outlook of Britishers, they have turned to the most deserving of all people to give them a helping hand.

Under the E

A DOCTOR thinks that everyone should have a meal between eleven and one. It is considered unlucky for thirteen to sit at table.

A NEWLY-ELECTED councillor in a South Coast district is a champion weight-lifter. Carries all before him.

SOME people say they are never bored. But you see through them.



£10,000 an hour at a Government ca
Yes, but how ma

THINGS SAID

THE monotony of the pre-war housing estates must not be repeated.

Lewis Silkin, Minister of Town and Country Planning

BY co-operation with America—not to the disadvantage of any other part of the world but in association with the rest of the world—we could establish the century of the common man.

Aneurin Bevan

I PROPOSE to use the aeroplane extensively to keep in touch with the Army's work in every part of the globe.

General Orsborn, Salvation Army

DON'T be disappointed, don't be discouraged, don't despair of the Security Council. Please remember, this body is still in its infancy and that growing pains are inevitable.

Dr Afifi (Egypt) retiring President, Uno Security Council

HONOUR to Great Britain, who, at the most tragic moment of the war, victoriously confronted the German onrush with her tranquil courage and legendary tenacity.

M. Gouin, Head of the French Provisional Government

GOOD intentions are not enough. The forces of peace must be powerful.

The Prime Minister

The Divine Art

TO me it seems as if when God conceived the world, that was poetry; He formed it, and that was sculpture; He varied and coloured it, and that was painting, and then, crowning all, He peopled it with living beings, and that was the grand divine, eternal drama.

Charlotte Cushman

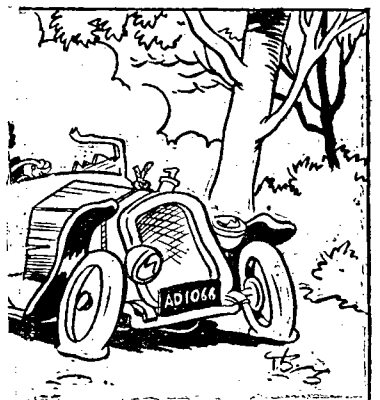
Editor's Table

FOR most people a new outfit is out of the question. Certainly not out of the shops.

SOAPLESS soap has been invented. How about some drywater?

A MOTHER says her two children object to riding in the same pram. They fall out.

A FAMOUS juggler has retired. With a good balance at the bank?



At a dump sale, we read in a daily paper: my miles an hour?

An Overdue Reform

PRISONS in Britain are a disgrace. There is only one thing to be done with them, and that is to dynamite them."

This sweeping condemnation of British prisons comes from no less a person than Sir Harold Scott, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police; and, truly, our gloomy prison buildings are a survival of less enlightened days, completely out of tune with present-day thought.

For the majority of offenders, young and old, there is hope of reformation if the right methods are used and the right kind of buildings are provided; and we agree with Sir Harold Scott that the only really satisfactory way out is to make a clean sweep as soon as times permit, and start afresh.

SHUT-IN'S DAY

HOW often do we remember the sick and disabled who are confined to hospitals or their homes, and visit them or send them a little letter or a gift?

The first Sunday in June has been appointed a special day of remembrance for these unfortunate people by the "Shut-In's Day Association," founded a few years ago by a young Canadian, Ernest Barker, who is himself an invalid. Boy Scouts and public bodies co-operate, and the Mayors of some Canadian and American cities have publicly proclaimed Shut-In's Day and enlisted the support of their fellow citizens in ensuring its success. A branch of the Association has been formed in Britain with Mr Leonard Inskip, of 90 Biddulph Street, Leicester, as representative.

If you know anyone in hospital or ill at home please remember them in some kindly way on their special day, the first Sunday in June, and then continue throughout the year the kindly remembrance called forth by this day.

June Jingles

A SWARM of bees in June
Is worth a silver spune;
A swarm of bees in July
Is not worth a fly.

Warwickshire Rhyme

Calme weather in June
Corne sets in tune.

Thomas Tusser, 1570

Stages of Human Life

PAUSE awhile, oh man, to witness the drama of life. In the morning of life thou dalliest in its bright sunshine. Thou wast after vain pleasures; in the evening thou wast engulfed in thy ailments; ask thyself didst thou earnestly think who thou art, and what thou art here? Didst thou attain the knowledge of thyself and thy Creator? It alone will secure the eternal peace and joy here and hereafter. KNOW THYSELF!

Inscription on a Hindu building in Kenya

Panda Pranks at the Zoo

By the C N Zoo Correspondent

ANIMALS bound for the London Zoo often have to travel far before they reach their destination, but until the other week none had ever taken a 10,000-mile air-trip halfway round the world to do so.

The animal to set up this amazing record is Lien-Ho, the 18-month-old panda, which flew all the way from Western China to Poole Airport.

Lien-Ho, as the panda is to be known at the Zoo, and not Unity, stood the long trip well, too, and on reaching Regent's Park looked alert enough and incredibly smart in her soft woolly black-and-white coat. Nor was this altogether surprising. It had taken a team of a hundred men three arduous months to hunt this rare creature in the remote, almost inaccessible forests on the Tibetan border.

The chief problem was to pilot the panda safely through the torrid heat of the tropics. Her captors managed it by keeping in the plane a block of ice which, during the warmer part of the trip, was fixed beneath Lien-Ho's travelling-crate. Moreover, to ensure that this valuable four-footed passenger (she is worth quite £2000) had every possible care on the journey, she was accompanied by Mr Ma Teh, a Chinese student of zoology from the University of Szechwan. Mr Ma Teh never left the panda's side throughout the whole of the six-day trip!

A Hearty Appetite

Now Lien-Ho—the first of her kind seen at Regent's Park since the death of the late-lamented Ming in 1944—is receiving homage from thousands of the menagerie's visitors. How is she faring? Very well indeed, thank you!

I spent an hour inside the cage with Lien-Ho, Mr Ma Teh, and the panda's keeper, Mr Hitchcock, soon after her arrival, and I was much impressed by three things—the panda's docility, her amusing antics, and her appetite. The last is certainly astounding. She feeds mainly on bamboo shoots, and hardly has she finished one meal than she is ready for another! She is, however, not so keen on the particular brand of honey the Zoo provides for her as an

"added attraction." Offered some in a bowl by Mr Hitchcock, she refused to sample it until he himself took a spoonful. Even then she was not very enthusiastic about it, so probably the Zoo will try her with other brands.

As for Lien-Ho's antics—well, she is the perfect clown. She not only walks backwards round her cage (as a change from the usual mode of progression), but occasionally turns leisurely somersaults! Of one thing I am sure: she is going to make all children laugh—more than somewhat!

Luxurious Quarters

To make Lien-Ho feel comfortable the Zoo has gone to great lengths. Her cage, newly decorated and furnished with a sleeping platform, a tree-trunk for climbing, a sun-blind (to shield her from the direct rays of the noonday sun), and a hip-bath, is quite luxurious, judged by Zoo standards.

The only thing that worries the authorities is whether they can keep the panda supplied with enough bamboo. "However, I think we shall manage it all right," a Zoo official told me. "A large bundle of bamboo shoots came over on the plane with the animal, and when she gets through this we hope to get further consignments from the same sources, down in Cornwall and the Scilly Isles, from which the various Chinese restaurants in London get their supplies."

What of Lien-Ho's future? How long may she be expected to live? Myself, I think she may very well exceed the five years' residence established by Ming, for, unlike her famous predecessor, she is living at the Zoo under peace conditions (which is a very different thing from those prevailing in wartime), and her every need can be adequately met.

C. H.

HARDER TIMES

When the Parsonage Was a Stable

OUR ancestors, could they have looked into the future, would have thought much more lightly of our present needs and necessities than it is possible for us to do. They had repeated famines, accompanied by plague and pestilences; and to them our present diet, meagre as we think it, would have appeared luxury and plenteousness. Cold and lack of shelter, too, were common, and not always only among the poor.

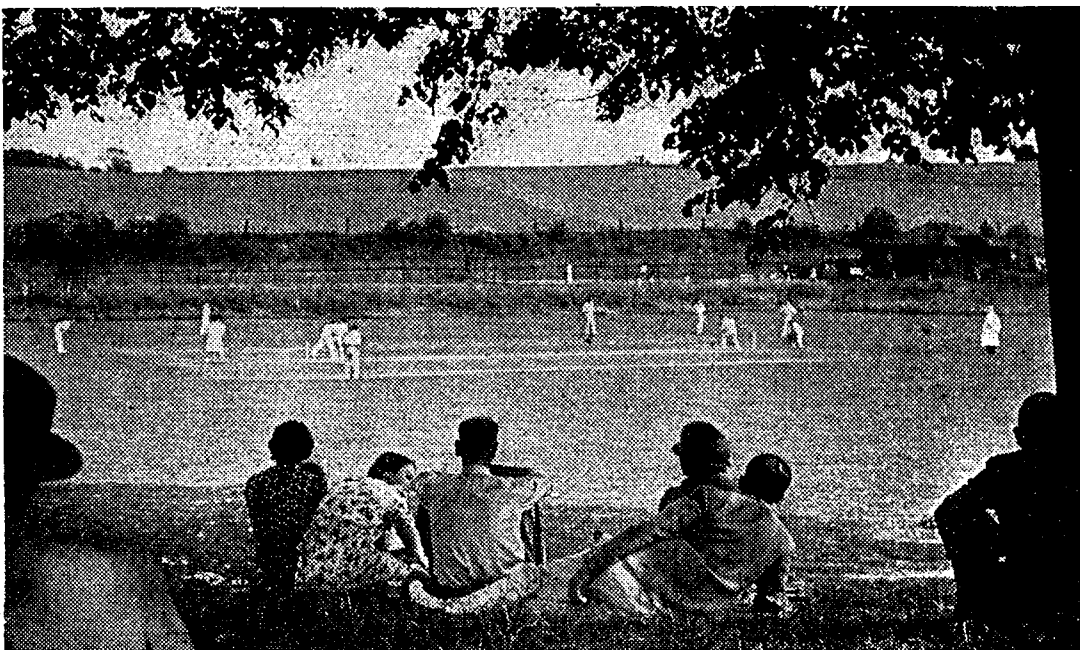
As grim, if humorous, a picture as any is to be found in the family annals of the author of *Alice in Wonderland*. One of his ancestors, the Revd Charles Dodgson, before he became a bishop, was the parson at Elsdon, Northumberland, where the parsonage was a low stable, with a kitchen overhead in which were two beds, one occupied by the curate and his wife, and the other by "Margery the maid." As for the future bishop, he slept in a little room in the stable, lying on one bed and covered by a second, lest the invading winds should sweep him away. He sought, not very successfully, to keep out the cold by wearing daily three nightcaps, two shirts, his overcoat, and his top boots.

When the good parson finally left Elsdon he was congratulated by George the Third, who said that he ought to have been thankful to have got away from a place where the stabling was so bad!

FOR YOUNG LONDONERS

THE Boys' Clubs of London have now a splendid training college of their own. It is Woodrow High House at Amersham, and has been given to the London Federation of Boys Clubs by the Goldsmith's Company. The college, which was formally opened the other day, dates from about 1750 and has beautiful grounds.

When opening the building the other day Mr John Maud announced that the Ministry of Education would contribute £1000 towards its equipment.



THIS ENGLAND

Cricket on the village green, one of the most familiar of all summer scenes—a match in progress at Bletchingley, a Surrey beauty spot.

Their Seaside Holidays Are a Real Thrill

TEN-YEAR-OLD Jimmy Burns went back to school the other week. He hobbled his pony in the yard behind the schoolhouse, in the Mallee of north-west Victoria, picked up his old leather school-bag, and strode importantly into class. He cut quite a figure that day. He had traveller's tales to tell, and an audience that hung on his words. He had spent two weeks at the seaside, 200 miles away. He had ridden in electric trams and trains, and in the lifts of city buildings.

Jimmy Burns was one of the 1500 Mallee children given a holiday at a seaside camp at Frankston, on Port Phillip Bay. Melbourne's Lord Mayor Connelly was the host, and all costs were paid by the Mallee Children's Holiday Scheme.

Not many of the children of the wheat-growing Mallee can swim, and fewer have even seen the sea. The only sand they know is grey, not the seashore's gold. But they can saddle a horse and ride him hard, drive a tractor, milk cows, and round up sheep. They are farmers' sons and daughters, and they know the land and the seasons.

All states now have regular holiday camps for the outback children. In Western Australia they are sent to surf at Cottesloe,

Fremantle. In Queensland they travel by plane and train to the eastern beaches. In New South Wales the Far West Children's Health Scheme originated 26 years ago. The first hostel was small, but today 120 Far West Committees supervise the scheme. Its facilities include four trains which travel through New South Wales doing infant clinic work.

In all states teams of doctors and dentists check physical development, but the discipline of medical check-ups is "purely incidental" for the children. They are invited to thrills and fun. And they get them. The people of the coasts can hardly know the joy there is for a country child in that first glimpse of sunlight playing over miles of ocean.

BRIGHTER PROSPECTS FOR SEAMEN

BRITISH seafarers have crossed the Atlantic to take part in an international conference to be held soon at Seattle, U.S.A.

This conference will complete a Seafarers' Charter, one of the most important documents in merchant shipping history.

Under it, for the first time, seamen of all countries will enjoy similar standards of treatment. Catering, insurance, accommodation, wages, hours, training and

promotion, and holidays are to be discussed, together with other topics designed to improve seafaring life.

Today seamen are often technicians and experts in any one of a dozen subjects, and even those who are not are in no way inferior to their fellow-workers in shore employment. The "new deal" being made will give them conditions as good as, or better than, almost any other industry.

BEDTIME CORNER

For Those at Sea



TONY whimpered and hid his head under the bed-clothes, trying to shut out the noise which seemed to come through the window—a dismal kind of moaning, dreadful to hear when no nightlight was allowed. It had been decided lately that Tony was too big to need a light, but he had not yet grown used to going to sleep in the dark.

This was the first time he had spent a holiday at the seaside, and everything was very exciting and delightful, but that noise—what could it be? Like the hooting of an owl, but much louder and more frightening.

At last he could bear it no longer, and called: "Mother! Mother!" until she hurried to his bedside.

"Oh, what is that noise?" wailed Tony. "I hate it—moaning so sadly all the time. Mayn't I have a nightlight, just this once?"

Mother smoothed the bed-clothes and shook up the pillow. "Why, those are the foghorns," she said. "There is a thick mist tonight, and some poor ship must be trying to find her way; there is nothing to be afraid of."

Tony was comforted, but he felt very sorry for the poor ships lost in the darkness.

"If I had a nightlight, and we put it in the window," he said diplomatically. "Don't you think it might help the ships to find their way?"

Mother smiled. She lit a nightlight "just for this once," and placed it on the window-sill. Then, tucking Tony up: "No more crying out," she said. "Why, you make nearly as much noise as the foghorns!"

Tony curled up again, and presently the moaning sounds grew fainter and at last stopped altogether.

"I'm so glad my nightlight has helped them," murmured Tony as he fell asleep.

REBUILDING A BEAUTIFUL CITY

WHEN the Germans bombed the old city of Exeter in May 1942 they announced on their wireless, "We have chosen as target the most beautiful place of England—Exeter is a jewel. We have destroyed it." Now the jewel is to be reset, and Mr Thomas Sharp in his book *Exeter Phoenix* (published by the Architectural Press) describes how he would propose to do it.

Mr Sharp has looked round the city, picking out what is beautiful and worth preserving, and condemning what is ugly and worthless. On the quay at Exeter where the ships come up the old canal from the Armada port of Topsham he sees a group of sturdy, rugged stone warehouses and hopes the citizens will keep them because they are among the finest buildings in the county.

A Modern High Street

Most of Exeter's High Street was swept away by the bombs. Mr Sharp's plan is to rebuild it in the clean lines of modern buildings instead of imitating any style of past days. He has ingenious ideas for traffic and gives Exeter two new squares and a grand sweeping boulevard by the River Exe, with a new Youth Centre on its banks.

At the heart of the city this modern planner sees Exeter Cathedral with new approaches opening fresh vistas of the noble building. He is out to sweep away the shoddy accumulations of the last hundred years and let the old city stand out clean and beautiful against the Devon hills.

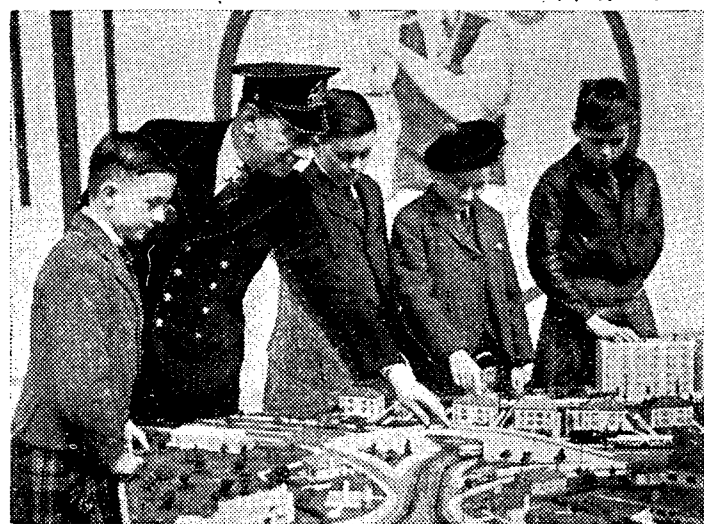
These are grand ideas, and the C.N. welcomes them and hopes that the citizens of Exeter, whose motto is *Semper Fidelis*—Ever Faithful—will take full advantage of the great chance which is offered to them.

A Film Journey

TWO new documentary films which should soon be seen in the cinemas are full of interest, writes the C.N. Film Correspondent. They are *Scottish Express*, and *Women and Sport*. In *Scottish Express* the audience are taken behind the scenes on a 400-mile London-to-Edinburgh run; they meet the workers who are connected with the fascinating iron road, and visit engineering plant and carriage works.

The engine-driver naturally comes in for the largest share of the limelight, and the intricate safety devices and modern facilities are shown, and so are many of the scenes which the express flashes past. Train enthusiasts will find a great deal in this 34-minute picture, and others will make many discoveries concerning this taken-for-granted means of travel.

In *Women and Sport* Raymond Glendenning, of the B.B.C., gives the commentary. It shows how British women have become adept in every sphere of sport, whether it be hurdling, running, javelin-throwing, archery, rowing or just swimming, and many women sport champions are seen in action.



Road Safety Exhibition

Young Scots of Glasgow intent on a lecture on road dangers and how to avoid them given by a Transport worker at a Road Safety Week Exhibition.

A DAY OFF FOR THE BEES

THIS is the season of swarming bees. Queen bees are laying thousands of eggs daily in hives already overcrowded, and soon many bees will decide to ease the congestion in their homes by finding new quarters.

According to the old saying, "A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon," but most beekeepers would prefer to do without one. Apart from the possibility of losing as many as 25,000 bees, swarms are a temporary check to honey production. In modern apiaries, much is done to reduce swarming by giving the bees more room, and by destroying the young queens, which bees rear to replace those accompanying swarms. Special strains of bees are bred also, in an endeavour to eradicate the trait.

Swarming cannot, however, be entirely prevented. It is nature's way of securing pollination for the blossom and flowers, by the even distribution of bees' nests throughout the countryside.

Bees treat the great adventure of finding new homes as a welcome break in the monotony of their everyday lives. They only swarm in fine, warm weather and they make the occasion a real holiday. Swarming bees are in the best of humours; they are filled with a

four days' supply of honey, and unless roughly handled will rarely, if ever, sting. Out from their hives they pour like a liquid stream, jostling and tumbling over each other in frantic joy, and filling the air with song as they fly madly to and fro.

Gradually the insects in flight draw together, and as a rapidly-circling cloud approach some preliminary resting place, usually on a tree or hedge. A few settle at first and the rest soon follow, to hang in a large cluster, each bee holding with its fore legs the hind legs of the bee above it. The air seems strangely still. Bees occasionally swarm on very unsuitable objects and at times even on people. A lady once found that her bees had swarmed, and that they were hanging behind her from her apron string!

Swarms send out scouts to find a permanent new home which, if not captured quickly, may be lost. In some marvellous and unknown manner, news of the scouts' return soon spreads throughout a swarm, and the cluster rapidly melts away as the bees depart eagerly for their new dwelling.

Once arrived, their holiday is over, and they set to work with tremendous energy, and quickly establish a thriving new colony.

Welding by Friction

MUCH has been told of the wonderful methods of joining pieces of metal together by welding, which is done with the aid of such immense heat that the parts to be welded actually melt into one another and thus become one.

Whole ships have been made by welding, without the use of innumerable rivets that have been used for so many years. The oxygen and acetylene flame is one of the hottest flames for this purpose; but more recently the metal parts have been heated by passing a heavy electric current through them. Electric welding is common practice today. And now we hear of a new kind of welding which is done by the mere heat of friction—the heat generated by rubbing two substances together in the way our forefathers used to kindle a fire before tinder and matches were discovered.

Plastic materials, which become sticky at a comparatively low heat, are now being welded by rubbing the parts together until they become hot. They then join together, and as soon as the plastic thing cools, it is one solid object. One of the biggest metal-welding concerns in this country has perfected this new process, which is likely to prove of immense importance in view of the growing use of plastic materials.

GOLDEN EVENT

THE golden wedding anniversary of Mr and Mrs Pilcher, of Barham, near Canterbury, has been commemorated in a lovely and unusual way. Fifty fir trees have been planted in a wood near Barham, the village where Mr Pilcher has worked as a woodman for twenty-five years and he and his wife have lived all their lives.

A RIVER AGLOW

Victory Pageant on Old Father Thames

ON the evening of June 8 our Victory celebrations are to be crowned by a royal water pageant, characterised by a wonder and magnificence recalling the gorgeous floating processions of our old-time monarchs.

Between Lambeth Bridge and Westminster the Thames will be aflame with coloured fire illuminating waterfalls and spouting sprays, the sky radiant with searchlights and darting rainbows of a myriad fireworks, and with rockets of previously unmatched power and brightness. The pageant will recall vivid scenes in the long story of Old Father Thames.

In olden days the Thames was London's main highway. Such roads as flanked it were miry, and almost impossible for wheeled traffic. Every byway led to the river, where thousands of boats and barges lay for hire, competing with the private craft of men of rank. Pageantry on the river, for State occasions, as well as for the Lord Mayor's Show, was therefore a natural outlet for royal and civic rejoicing.

Pages from the past glow with accounts of such demonstrations. There was the water procession of magnificence for Anne Boleyn during her prosperity, when she went upstream all unaware of the terrible after-journey downstream to the Tower. Her daughter, the young Elizabeth, made her first Thames journey downstream, to the same grim fortress, in peril of her life; but

rewarding Time compensated her with a pageant in the opposite direction, when she rode the river as the darling of the poets, peerless Queen Elizabeth.

Perhaps the proudest hour of a later Queen, Catherine of Braganza, was that in October 1662 when, accompanied by Charles the Second, she sailed in an immense canopied barge from Hampton Court. Vessels like floating theatres displayed tableaux fitting the occasion, and Samuel Pepys wrote in his diary that day that neither the water nor the King and Queen could be seen for the thousand decorated barges.

Another royal pageant left us something immortal. The great Handel, who held an appointment at the Court of Hanover, obtained permission from the Elector to visit England. He stayed so long, however, that when the Elector arrived in England, as our King George the First, the truant composer was still here. In dire disgrace Handel composed an instrumental suite of 24 movements, and, setting his orchestra with himself in a barge, followed the King as he proceeded in state along the river, playing the new composition. The delighted King forgave and pensioned the inspired culprit, who left the suite—the glorious Water Music.

As roads improved and bridges multiplied pageantry passed from the Thames to the streets. In 1849 Queen Victoria planned a state water pageant—the last of her reign—for the opening of the Coal Exchange, but she was taken ill, and the Prince Consort went in her stead.

Nearly a century has passed since then, and the Victory Thames Pageant will be in a vastly different setting—in a new London, in a new Britain. Even the river itself has changed.

A German Prisoner's Beetles.

IN Kensington Gardens, German prisoners have been preparing camps for the thousands of troops who will be in London for the Victory procession of June 8.

Not far from the Magic Oak quite a crowd of sightseers stood recently, attracted by bright movement against the drab canvas of a tent just inside the barbed-wire cage. For here one of the young Germans had fashioned a set of wooden beetles, each about as big as a small dinner-plate, most ingeniously carved, and painted in all sorts of bright colours. By means of unseen strings and pulleys, the beetles were made to climb up and down the outside of the tent, their legs wagging quaintly, and the manufacturer seemed to be very proud of the attention his work was exciting.

There was nothing he could do with his beetles except make them crawl up and down, for the Germans are not allowed to sell what they make. But he was an artist who felt he must create, and there were others like him. One had made an entire range of small farmyard animals, too small to be seen by passers-by.

Milking Time For Snakes

NOR long ago Field-Marshal Lord Wavell, Viceroy of India, visited the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, where he saw the process of "milking" the Institute's poisonous snakes of their venom for use as serum in cases of snake-bite.

Milkers of cows like their charges to remain quiet and contented at milking time, but to milk a snake you must first make it cross.

The method used by Indian "snake milkmen" is to put a thin wire gauze over the snake's head and then to prod it mildly with a stick; this causes the indignant



Our artist's own version of annoying a snake

reptile to spit venom which adheres to the gauze and is afterwards collected.

The number of people killed by snakes in India every year has remained for some time at about 20,000, but the fact that this number has not grown with the great increase in India's population shows that the work of the Haffkine Institute is having a good effect.

Snakes are an ever-present menace to the peoples of India, biting them when they accidentally tread on them. In some districts barefoot postmen running from village to village after dark wear little bells round their ankles to scare snakes.

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But he did it because he loved it. Others had made toys and musical instruments for the same reason.

Appearances are deceptive. Some of these young men, our enemies, looked hard and ruthless still: some looked sullen: some looked savagely unhappy. But, writes a C N correspondent, there were others of whom one felt that they were much the same as ourselves, and if not for their Nazi education and training would have been useful and happy citizens of a peaceful and prosperous world.

Somehow the bright beetles climbing up a prisoner's tent spoke of better things than barbed wire and the wars which put active youth behind it.

COINCIDENCE

A C N reader received two letters one morning recently. One came from Ireland and the other from Australia, and each contained a snapshot of its writer. The photograph from Ireland was labelled "the most Westerly bit of Old Ireland." The picture from Australia was taken at Point Look-out, the most Easterly part of Australia.

A RIDDLE OF THE ANTARCTIC

A SHORT time ago the seismographs of the world rocked to a mighty earthquake located about 3000 miles south of New Zealand. This would place it well inside Antarctica, where the foot of none but the hardy pioneers has trod. There, in the snow-laden land of icy blizzards, the earthquake occurred, with no man to see its effect.

This is the first time that a shock has been recorded as occurring in these desolate regions. The chain of "faults" which give rise to earthquakes was not previously known to exist in the Antarctic, though there are at least two active volcanoes there.

These are Mounts Erebus and Terror, which rise 13,000 and 11,000 feet above the icy plain, and are situated close to the waters of the Ross Sea, directly south of New Zealand. Mount Erebus is perpetually surmounted by a cloud of smoke and steam, but was not disruptively active when visited by explorers.

It may be that Mount Erebus has since erupted, pouring forth huge quantities of molten rock, and hurling dust and ashes high into the air. We simply do not know, because no one is there to witness it—unless perhaps the recent whaling expedition to the Antarctic sailed in that direction. However that may be, there is no doubt about the earthquake, which is regarded as being a particularly violent one. In that land of giant glaciers there is nothing surprising in an earthquake occurring to equalise the pressure. Glaciers hundreds of miles long, and weighing billions of tons, are continually on the move. The Ferrar, Keolitz, Beardmore, and other glaciers, huge lakes of ice filling the plain between the mountains and ex-

tending in ice rivers many miles broad down into the valleys, must exert a tremendous pressure on the earth's crust.

There is, however, another ice sheet even vaster. This is the Great Barrier, which is located at the entrance to Antarctica, and extends for 600 miles along the shores of the Ross Sea. In area it is as big as France. Captain Scott considered it to be partly afloat and partly embedded on the land. Bergs by the thousand, many of colossal size, break away from this great ice sheet. They float away northwards where they are a grave danger to navigation.

It may even be that the Great Barrier, undermined by the waters of the Ross Sea, has collapsed or sunk a foot or two. This would give rise to a lurch similar to an earthquake—although in this case it would of course be an icequake. The fact that there is no previous record of a quake in the Antarctic would not be out of accord with this, for it may occur only at long intervals.

On the other hand, an icequake may have occurred farther back in the region of the Great Plateau, where centuries of accumulated snows have at last given way. It is a riddle of the Great White South which the forthcoming British Antarctic Expedition will doubtless solve, among other things.

Family Recipe for Summer Colds

Here is a medicine mothers have been using for years to stop those horrid Summer Colds getting a chance to develop. It's so popular now that practically every chemist keeps it made up and ready for use.

It's known as the Parmint recipe, and one dose of this Parmint Syrup will prove how good it is.

It brings almost instant relief to trying coughs and sore throats, clears the head and makes you feel well in no time. It's grand for kiddies, too. They like the Parmint Flavour.

Be wise. Get a bottle of Parmint Syrup from your chemist to-day and keep it handy. 1/5 the bottle, Family Size 2/10, including tax.

NOTE.—If through shortage of bottles your chemist is out of Parmint Syrup, get a 3/11 bottle of Parmint Concentrated Essences and make it up yourself.

HEALTH IS NATIONAL INSURANCE

and we are doing our utmost to build up our boys and girls for the place they must take later as responsible citizens. Hundreds will be given holidays this summer away from grimy, devastated Stepney. Will you help—please? Address:

The Rev. RONALD F. W. BOLLOM, Supt., THE EAST END MISSION (Founded 1885), Bromley Street, Commercial Road, Stepney, E.1.

Famous for drawing!

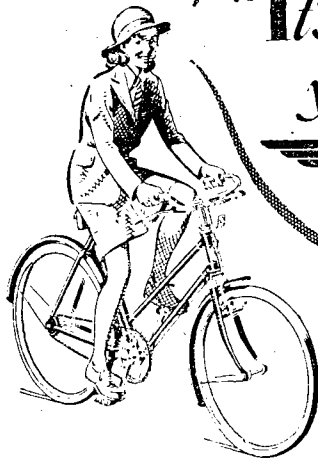
For over a century Gillott's have made the finest quality and the widest range of drawing pens in the world... the favourites of famous artists. At present supplies may be limited, but the excellence persists.

By appointment Pen Makers to the late King George V

Gillott's Pens

JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS LTD.
VICTORIA WORKS - BIRMINGHAM

"It's time you had a BSA"



"It's fine for school or Holiday"



B.S.A. Cycles Ltd., Birmingham, 11

THE BRAN TUB

KNOWLEDGEABLE

A NEW manager was wanted for the apiary, and the ability of the applicant was proving decidedly limited.

"Do you know anything at all about bees?" he was finally asked. "Oh, yes, they sting!"

Riddles About Places

WHY are there few horses in the Isle of Wight? *Because the inhabitants prefer Cows to Ryde.*

Why is the wick of a candle like Athens? *Because it is in Greece (grease).*

What places in Scotland should be able to play a tune between them? *Ayr (air) and Fife.*

Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars, Saturn, and Venus are in the west,



Venus being very low, and Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the moon as it may be seen at eight o'clock, BST, on Wednesday morning, May 29.

ENIGMA

THIS special dance is also in most sports. We cannot play if of it we're bereft. Cut off its head and, strange though it may seem, You will observe that *everything* is left.

Jacko Has a Rather Sweeping Idea



1. Jacko planned to give his mother a little surprise.



2. He dressed as a queer stranger and knocked on the door.



3. Mother Jacko got a surprise—but so did the odd visitor!

FACTS ABOUT LIBERIA

A NEGRO republic on the west coast of Africa, Liberia originated as a colony for freed slaves which was started in 1822 by American philanthropic societies. It became an independent republic in 1847.

Liberia is about a third larger than Scotland. Most of the country is covered by dense tropical forest abounding in wild animals. Population, about one to one-and-a-half millions, consisting of the descendants of freed slaves and of the native African tribes. The Kru tribe of the coast are good sailors. The official language is English. Capital, Monrovia, on the coast, having a population of about 10,000. Chief products, crude rubber and crude gold.

Tongue Twister

Six shiny sixpences showed shimmering on six shop shelves.

Never Satisfied

"How are you enjoying this lovely, hot weather, Mrs Murphy?" asked the vicar.

"Sure, sir, and indade it's very nice, but the pity it is it's not winter now—think of the foires it would save."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

A Welcome Visitor to the Orchard. The bird had a straight, narrow body, and a long tail. It skimmed the hedge and vanished.

Thinking it to be a hawk, and fearing for Farmer Gray's young chickens, Don scrambled through the hedge, determined to scare off the marauder. "Cuckoo, cuckoo, cuckoo," sounded overhead. Don looked up, and the bird flew away. It was then that Don realised his error.

"A common mistake," said Farmer Gray, hearing of the event. "Their likeness is remarkable, though Cuckoo's wings are longer and narrower than the hawk's. Cuckoos are frequent visitors to orchards and welcome ones, too, for they eat large quantities of insects."

GOT IT?

As tools all carpenters use these. They also wear them, if you please. It happens with a good sea breeze— You ought to guess this one with ease.

Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, May 29, to Tuesday, June 4.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 A Treat for Mr Tollington; Young Artists; The Dive-bomber Goose. North, and Northern Ireland, 5.0 Nursery Sing-song; Spelling Bee. 5.35 Nature Diary. West, 5.0 The Tale of a Cat; Toothsome Trifles; The Secret Drawer.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Rabbit Hill (Part 3); How's It Done?—a modern cinema at work. Welsh, 5.0 All in the Day's Work—the Violin Man; Athletics; Around the Countryside.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Down to the Sea; The Tregower Inheritance (Part 2 of a serial play).

SATURDAY, 5.0 Worzel Gummidge. 5.45 Piano Recital. Northern Ireland, 5.45 Two Rabbits of Witching Wood.

SUNDAY, 5.0 The Inimitable Boz—Charles Dickens. Midland, 5.0 Oak, Ash, and Thorn; Let's Make Hay; Ronald Bristol (tenor). Northern Ireland, and North, 5.0 Nature Quiz.

MONDAY, 5.0 Uncle Remus; Coon songs. 5.25 A Visit to Cow-leaze Farm. Midland, 5.0 Building an Engine; Wool for North-leach; Kirra the Piebald.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Tammy Troot's Aeroplane; Down at the Mains. Northern Ireland, 5.0 A Scout Party; From Different Angles; Rent Day—a play.

THE CARD CODE

HERE is a secret writing code which is very easy to remember.

The heart symbol stands for the letters A to F inclusive, A being shown by a drawn heart containing one X, B by a heart and two X's, and so on up to F which is six X's inside the heart.

The diamond shape represents the letters G to L, G being a diamond with one X, continuing as for the heart letters.

The club and spade shapes stand for seven letters each, club M to S, and spade T to Z, so that S would be a club containing seven X's and Z seven X's in a spade.

Maxim to Memorise

WILFUL waste makes woeful want.

The Children's Newspaper, June 1, 1945

MASTERING MAGIC

Ask the audience to help in your conjuring tricks whenever possible. Everyone enjoys this.

Give the youngest onlooker a plate and ask him to collect some pennies, from which he must choose one and pass it round for the date to be mentally noted by everyone, after which it should be mixed up with the others. At once cover all the coppers with a handkerchief and feel them to find the chosen one—it will be quite warm.

Have ready on the first and second fingers a light-coloured rubber band and slip this over the penny in the handkerchief. Then lift up the handkerchief, saying you cannot find the selected coin, and return the others to their owners, counting them. One, of course, will be missing. So spread the handkerchief over a glass, with one hand on top, while the other hand pulls the sides of the handkerchief. The coin will then drop into the glass.

Catch Question

WHAT is the question to which no one can ever reply in the negative? *What does not exist?*

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden Cricket:
Clubs
Kent, Notts,
Hants, Somerset,
Essex, Sussex.

Puzzle Limerick
Stare, tares,
rates, tears.

S	A	G	E	C	A	S
T	R	E	E	S	P	I
I	C	E	T	A	P	I
R	S	E	A	R	E	R
T	E	R	R	A	C	E
M	E	G	I	B	E	A
O	N	I	O	N	D	A
T	O	N	G	R	A	N
E	R	S	E	A	R	T

Joan is so
full of fun

Always getting up to something. So high spirited too. Taxes all your energy to keep pace with her. But in your heart you know her health is all that matters. Like all wise mothers you agree that when needed, 'a dose of California Syrup of Figs' will soon correct stomach upsets and regulate the system. It is the natural treatment for children—the laxative they like. 'California Syrup of Figs' keeps them well and happy.



"California
Syrup of Figs"

DON'T WASTE BREAD
TO EAT IS SENSIBLE — TO WASTE IS FOOLISH

Eat
"BERMALINE"
for its extra nourishment and
delicious flavour, but **DON'T**
WASTE!

WASTE OF BREAD IN THESE DAYS IS WICKED



HER FUTURE
INCLUDES THAT
magnesia
smile
THANKS
TO MOTHER.

Sound teeth are among the most valuable possessions you can ensure for your child. Here is a way to make certain she keeps them clean and healthy: see that she brushes them with Phillips' Dental Magnesia twice a day.

Regular use of Phillips' Dental Magnesia, which is the one toothpaste containing *'Milk of Magnesia', neutralizes harmful mouth acids and helps to keep teeth white and free from decay. Make sure your child's future includes that sparkling *Magnesia* smile!

Sold everywhere 1/1d. and 1/10 1/2d.

Phillips' Dental Magnesia
(Regd.)

* 'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.